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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1910.

OUR DEFENCELESS NATION.

Startling was the revelation of the military weakness of the United States, which leaked out yesterday after Congress had refused to receive the confidential report of Secretary of War Dickenson. Accustomed to regard this as a nation presenting a formidable front to the other countries of the world, the people now awake to the fact that this is practically a defenceless nation by reason of the inadequacy of its military force. The statement of Representative McLaughlin, of California, that within thirty days an army of 200,000 men could land on the Pacific coast and hold an impregnable position for three or four months is calculated to open the eyes of those who have blindly believed that in peace our country is prepared for war.

California, Oregon and Washington are the only States on the other side of the Rocky Mountains. In all these States there are but 2,000 regulars and only 5,000 reserves or militiamen. The force in this territory is almost negligible in comparison with the vast army that might be landed there with such rapidity and such lack of opposition that it would entrench itself before interference by the military force in the remainder of the United States would be possible.

All of the details of the report of the Secretary of War have not been made public, because of the confidential nature of the document, but the intimations made in Washington are that the nation confronts a serious situation that ought to be remedied forthwith. The possibility of a terrible and costly attack from the Orient is too great to be overlooked now.

It is understood that among the recommendations made by the War Department are the increasing of the standing army from 80,000 to 100,000 men; the establishment of a permanent reserve force made up of soldiers whose terms have expired and who have not re-enlisted; and the reduction of the term of enlistment from three to two years. It is further suggested that there be created a war council, to consist of those officers of the government who are in authority in military affairs and who are familiar with the organization of the army.

The report will be alarming to thousands of people in civil life, but in military circles it will cause little surprise. Time and time again officers and military experts have declared that the military arm of the nation is not fully developed; that its muscles are almost atrophied; that it needs strength—but these prophets without honor in their own land have been laughed at as alarmists. Doubtless they will have their reward in feeling that hereafter the army will be the object of far more attention from Congress than it has had in many a year.

There is, of course, no war imminent, but the future is uncertain. War clouds arise swiftly, and the only safe nation is the nation prepared for the foe.

DISARMING THE ELECTRICAL OCTOPUS.

So many and so powerful are the tentacles of the Electrical Trust that the Department of Justice, instead of heaving at the monster with one mortal blow, is compelled to attack each part of the octopus singly. There are scores and scores of trusts involved in the structure of the great combination which embraces them all. There is the copper wire trust, for instance. These smaller trusts control the supply and sale of the many products and manufactured articles which are needed in electrical plants and shops.

There are so many of these trusts within the trust that it is said that it will require from now until the first of the year to prepare and file the necessary bills against each of these combinations. For some time the Department of Justice has been after the Electrical Trust, but it is just realizing the tremendous magnitude of the combination. One million dollars will have to be expended by the Government in the fight on the trust, for the importance and complexity of the case is only realized when it is remembered that the Electrical Trust is far greater and far more powerful than Standard Oil or any of the other combinations which we are wont to regard as of supreme size.

Dissolution of the Electrical Trust would work a great benefit to the people, for a large proportion of them are directly affected in one way or another by the cost of electricity and electrical supplies. Cities and States, as well, will benefit by the destruction of this gigantic combination in restraint of trade.

PUBLICITY OF PEACE.

Virginia, North Carolina and Alabama are leading the fight in the South against the fee system. Political activity against this unbusinesslike and unjustifiable method of compensating officers is stronger in the

other two States than it is in Virginia, but there is good reason to believe that the Democratic party in this State will, at its earliest opportunity, record itself in opposition to the extravagant and wasteful system of compensation now in vogue in Virginia.

The Montgomery Times does not mince words about the situation in Alabama. It says:

"Abolish the fee system. . . . It is nothing short of robbery of the taxpayers. None of these officers earn anything near what they are paid; some of them receive six times what their services are worth. This is a vital issue. It should be vigorously pushed before the meeting of the legislature, and a great public sentiment should be crystallized to compel the passage of a bill establishing a salary basis for the payment of these men."

This statement is equally applicable to existing conditions in Virginia. There may be a few very officers who are earning what they are paid; but they are in a conspicuous minority. The majority of officers paid by fees are overpaid.

No one doubts the logic of the proposition that the fee system should be abolished. It is not a question of logic, but a question of strength. It is true of Alabama, as it is of Virginia, that the courthouse rings in the different counties are able to muster more political strength than the representatives of the people. If the question shall be put in convention or in the General Assembly, it will be decided by the one test of whether or not the rings are more powerful than the people.

If the fee system advocates prevail, at least a law ought to be passed requiring all fees, under severe penalties, to be paid into the county treasury, to be held there and computed and the total made public before the fees are paid over to the officers entitled to them under the law. There can be no harm in such publicity, for it would not affect the finances of the officers nor would it be unjust to the people to let them know what their public servants are getting. If publicity of campaign contributions is required in this Commonwealth, why should not publicity of fees received by county officers be ordained by law?

What sort of employer would be one who said to his employee, "Take what you can get. I don't know what your salary is, I do not know how much you are taking out of the cash drawer; I don't want you to tell me, because I don't care?" Put the State of Virginia in the place of the employer and see how absurd the proposition is that the fee system is justifiable.

THE DRAINAGE MEETING.

That will be a most important meeting which will be held at the State Capitol this afternoon in the interest of the drainage of the swamp lands of Virginia, an area of almost one million acres. The object of the gathering will be to formulate preliminary steps to be taken in order to present the question adequately to the General Assembly. All who are interested in the development of the resources of the State, whether owners of swamp land or not, should attend this afternoon and enable the movement to start off with a strong backing.

Great is the project, but it can be carried out if it shall have the support of the people. If this land shall be reclaimed, it will be of great value to the State, and will add materially to its agricultural territory.

THE PROGRESS OF PEACE.

No one can measure the benefit that will flow out of the gift of \$10,000,000 made by Andrew Carnegie yesterday for the endowment of an international peace foundation for the abolition of war. At a time like this, when the peaceful arbitrament of international disputes is a subject discussed by convention after convention and when there seems to be a meeting of minds as to the desirability of such a method of adjudication, such a material impetus to the peace movement can but accelerate that day when the war drum will throb no longer.

A most important peace conference will be in session in Washington this week. Representatives of many of the great nations of the world will participate in the deliberations of this body. The sole purpose will be to ascertain some method by which the nations of the world may arbitrate their difficulties, without an appeal to arms. All are agreed that peace is the object, but there are various views as to the proper means by which to achieve the end.

It seems likely that ultimately some sort of international tribunal will be established having final jurisdiction in all matters of controversy between nations. The problem is to find a way to make the decision of such a tribunal binding on the parties concerned. It is also sought to give the decisions of such a tribunal the effect of precedents for future settlement of international disputes, so that international jurisdiction may be more definite.

Ex-Governor Montague, of Virginia, has more than once suggested that an international tribunal, modelled closely after the United States Supreme Court, would suffice for the needs of the nations. The Supreme Court, to a certain extent, has now the jurisdiction which an international tribunal would have for the Court decides controversies between the several States and between citizens of different States. It is the arbiter between sovereignties of equal rank.

The great question involved is how to enforce the mandates of an international tribunal. The Supreme Court may invoke force to carry out its decisions, but this force is lacking in the case of an international arbitral court. The problem of international

peace is no easy one and it may well enlist the powerful effort of publicists of all countries.

POPULAR GOVERNMENT PROGRESS.

James Bryce, at present ambassador from Great Britain to the United States, sixteen years ago wrote his "American Commonwealth," a critical and comprehensive survey of popular government as exemplified in this republic. A few weeks ago he was called upon to write a preface to the new revised edition of his work, and in it he wrote this optimistic message to the American people:

"It was with some anxiety that I entered on this revision, fearing lest the hopeful spirit with which my observation of American institutions from 1870 to 1894 had inspired me might be dampened by the more recent phases. But all I have seen and heard during the last few years makes me more hopeful for the future of popular government. The forces working for good seem stronger to-day than they have been for the last three generations."

That is, indeed, a comforting opinion. It may be taken to indicate that Ambassador Bryce regards the movement in this country for a larger representation of the people in public affairs as tending to success. Discontent with machines, with excessive centralization of political power, with boss-rule, with antiquated methods of government are all to him evidences of progress toward making government the truer expression of the will of the people.

THE GOVERNMENT AND GOOD ROADS.

No more helpful impetus to the good roads movement has been given than that furnished by the United States Department of Agriculture. From this source has come continuous and valuable aid in the movement for better highways.

Instruction in the methods of road building has been carried on by means of object-lesson roads, constructed at local expense, under the supervision of an engineer of the government Office of Public Roads. Something more than 1,000,000 square yards of such road, or about 14 miles of road 15 feet wide, were completed during the past year. As a construction record alone, this would be an excellent showing, but when it is considered that this mileage was composed of 55 object-lesson roads, each being a miniature school of road building, comprising 10 types of construction, it is plain that the work of the Department is a potent factor in the good roads reform movement.

State Highway Commissioner P. St. Julien Wilson, of Virginia, has said that, where one county constructs good roads, the adjoining counties follow, by influence of example, and the reports of the Government second what Mr. Wilson has said. Inspection of 22 object-lesson roads last year, making a total of about 22 miles, showed that their effect upon the various localities resulted in the building of 730 miles of additional roads by the same method employed in the object-lesson roads. These new roads mean a total expenditure of \$1,500,000.

The Department had to fill 250 assignments for the experts and consulting engineers under its authority. These men did advisory work. This is an increase of 70 per cent. over the amount of similar work performed the year previous.

COLLEGE WOMEN.

Professor Leslie J. Tompkins, of New York University, president of the National Association of College Graduates, comes forward with the statement that "the college woman has not 'made good.' There are 12,000 or 15,000 college women in the United States. Three-fourths of these are so nice that they are married already and the remainder are freaks. The married women do not take so much interest in outside affairs and freaks cannot accomplish anything anyway."

These are strange words from one who wanders in academic shades. The learned professor seems to think that a woman college graduate has wasted her life if she marries. Why has she? Of course, the majority of homes contain women who have never been in college, but there is no evidence to show that the college-bred woman is inferior as wife and mother to the woman who has never been within college walls.

No one can measure what effect college-bred women are having and will have on the present and subsequent generations. An overwhelming majority of the teachers of children are women, and many of these women are college women, who, as a rule, are better trained and better equipped to direct the young mind in the right way than teachers who have had only a smattering of a public school education.

As for the unmarried college women, many of them are doubtless women who have not lacked offers of marriage, but who prefer to serve mankind in other ways than the accomplishment of the duties of the married woman. Some of the greatest women in the world to-day are unmarried college women. Look at Miss Jane Adams, for example. She is a college graduate, but she is the most successful woman in social service to-day. Yale gave her its prized M. A. degree last June. Another college woman, whose name we cannot recall, is doing a splendid work in New York to-day in the reclamation of wayward girls. Her soft voice is more powerful among such lowly ones than the combined eloquence of the best preachers in the metropolis. If such women be "freaks," then may the colleges speed more of them to touch our national life at every point for the better!

WHAT IS A LIFE WORTH?

Mr. Justice Gummere, of the New Jersey Court of Appeals, has won un-

enviable notoriety in connection with the rumor of the last few weeks that he was about to be appointed an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. The Hearst papers dissected his judicial record with ghoulish delight and heaped the heaviest epithets of the Brisbane vocabulary upon him, because he once decided that the father of a little boy who was run over by a street car was not entitled to recover more than \$1 damages.

Doubtless, there were not lacking precedents to nerve the hand of the judge in writing such a decision. Even so, the estimate seems as low as it is absurd. The potential value of the child, who might have been a valuable citizen, was perhaps left out of the computation.

The New York Central Railroad will pay \$60,000 damages to the estate of the late Spencer Trask, a New York banker, settling the matter out of court. The banker was wealthy, he was prominent, he was a man of great earning capacity, it may be that the estimate was for too low as to the value of his life, but was his life worth sixty thousand times as much as the little lad, in the dawn of life, who was crushed to death?

For the query column of the Lynchburg News: Who is superintendent of schools in Lynchburg?

EDUCATION MUST COMBAT DISEASE

Professor Winslow Praises Modern Methods for Public Health.

VALUE OF VISITING NURSES

Mothers of Riches Could Save 150 Babies' Lives Each Year.

Individual education, and not rules and regulations and police power, must be used in bringing about better health conditions, said Professor C. E. Winslow, of the College of the City of New York, who spoke last night at the John Marshall High School. The public health problem of to-day, he said, is not an attempt to do away with death and disease, but to stay the hand of the grim reaper from the use of diseases of a preventable character.

He pointed out that many plagues and dreaded maladies, including yellow fever, smallpox, diphtheria and other kindred foes of mankind, through scientific research have, to a great extent, been placed in a class where they no longer cause terror when mentioned. The discovery of various serums, antitoxins and vaccines, the lecturer asserted, has given physicians a weapon which has saved and will save thousands of lives.

Professor Winslow spoke under the auspices of the Federation of Mothers' Clubs and the Richmond Health Department, his address on public health matters being the first of a series of talks of the winter on topics relating to public health matters. The school board is co-operating in this movement, and at last night's meeting Dr. J. A. C. Chandler, Superintendent of Schools, presided, while Dr. E. C. Levy, City Health Officer, made a brief address and introduced Professor Winslow.

Growth of Movement. The last referred to three periods of the movement which is now absorbing the health authorities of all nations. He declared that all time prior to 1858 is known as the "Intuitive

period," when instinct warned man against disease.

This period, he said, was ended when the germ theory was advanced by Pasteur and other eminent scientific men in the late fifties. From that time up until a few years ago was what could be termed the "scientific period." The "economic period" is now in progress.

"Prevention, which has been stalking in the dark," declared Professor Winslow, "is now gradually being conquered. Many nameless terrors have been overcome. Immense things have been done by public hygienists. The keynote of this has been the discovery of germs."

The speaker continued: "The public has but a vague idea of the workings of a municipal health department. Many people think that the removal of dead horses, the stopping of a street car from sewer gas and other such complaints form most of the work of a board of health. They have no idea of the vast amount of detail work of statistics, bacteriologists and engineers necessary for the conduct of a modern health office."

Visiting Nurses. "Rules and regulations and police power will never bring about better health conditions. It must be done through individual education, and with this end in view I strongly urge and recommend the use of visiting nurses. Groups of mothers in various communities should form associations for this purpose and work under the direction of the Health Department. I do not mean to increase the work of the health authorities, but merely let them map out the work to be done. "When a visiting nurse enters a home the individual instruction of mothers, fathers and children begins. "Infant mortality is probably the greatest problem which confronts the race."

"It is estimated that 200,000 infants die every year in America. One-half of this number could unquestionably be saved if mothers would simply carry out simple sanitary laws. I figure that 150 babies could be saved each year in Richmond alone, if mothers were more familiar with certain laws. The education of the mother in this direction is imperative. The matter of proper clothing is a most important factor."

Factory Hygiene. "I want to say a few words about tenement and factory sanitation, with especial reference to factories. If these places were properly constructed and ventilated the fight against tuberculosis would be greatly assisted. Consumption is a social and industrial disease."

A feature of the lecture was the display of a big chart showing the decrease of typhoid fever in Richmond. By a vigorous campaign of the Health Department in the past six years the mortality of this disease has been reduced from about seventy-five each year to twenty, a showing which Professor Winslow pronounced splendid.

He concluded his address by saying that the public is being gradually aroused in matters of public health. The auditorium of the High School was nearly filled with interested men and women. Governor and Mrs. Mann were present.

Other Lectures. Dr. Chandler announced that the next lecture will take place January 5, when Dr. Levy will speak on "Preventable Diseases" (illustrated). Other lectures this season will be as follows:

January 19—"Relation of Flies and Mosquitoes to Public Health" (illustrated). Dr. A. W. Freeman.

February 2—"Cause and Prevention of Common Colds." Dr. Frank M. Reade.

February 16—"Medical Inspection in the Schools" (illustrated). Dr. McGuire Newton.

March 2—"Hygienic Management of Nervous Children." Dr. Beverley R. Tucker.

Mrs. E. W. Boatwright has been chosen chairman of a committee of the Board of Health to arrange for these events, while Dr. Levy will assist.

Flies Bill of Exceptions. In the case of Hilary L. Whitlock against the American Loan Company, a verdict of damages in the sum of \$4,500 was recently rendered by a jury in the Circuit Court and a preliminary injunction was granted by Judge Scott, the plaintiff has filed his bill of exceptions to the action of the court in granting the injunction. A doctor's argument on exceptions will be set shortly.

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Booth. If John Wilkes Booth, slayer of Lincoln, was not captured and killed, who was punished in his place?

A.—Booth was killed while resisting arrest at Bowling Green, Va.

Residence for Voting. Can a man board in one State and vote in another?

A.—Sometimes. A man votes in the State where his legal residence is established. If the subject votes in a State where he is not a resident, he is temporarily residing in another, i.e. votes where his home is. If his boarding house is home, the place where he

BECOMES GRANDFATHER ON DAY OF HIS WEDDING

BY LA MARQUISE DE FONTENAY.

An unfortunate coincidence, which has excited a considerable amount of amused comment at Brussels, Prince Victor Napoleon became a grandfather on the very day of his wedding at the castle of Moncelier, to Princess Clementine of Belgium. Prince Victor, during his residence of twenty-four years in exile at Brussels, has had several marriages, one of which led to his being hooted with cries of "Down with Victor" at the popular Galleries Theatre. Victor is a sort of contemptuous corruption of Victor. The most serious of all these entanglements was that with Mme. Baucelaire, who had a civil ceremony, no religious ceremony, two girls and two boys. The eldest of these girls married last winter, and has just become a mother, at Brussels, thus rendering Prince Victor a grandfather on his wedding day.

Contrary to what has been alleged, the Prince never had any religious ceremony, nor any morganatic alliance, that is to say, he never went through any civil or religious form of marriage with a woman who never became one of his children. Had he done so he could not have wedded Princess Clementine, without seeking beforehand a dissolution of his previous matrimonial bonds. Strictly speaking, there are no such things as morganatic marriages in France, Belgium or in the Netherlands. In England, if in France or in Belgium a royal personage satisfies his conscience by wedding ecclesiastically a woman who is never formally elevated on account of her inferiority of rank, he remains bound in the eyes of the church, though he is not bound in the eyes of the law. Prince Victor married Mme. Baucelaire ecclesiastically, he could not have contracted another ecclesiastical marriage, and he could have made the princess his wife in the eyes of the law, by means of a civil ceremony, on the ground that his marriage to Mme. Baucelaire had no legal value. The French royal Due de Berry wedded Princess Clementine in 1846, in a grand and magnificent ceremony, with much religious pomp, during the lifetime of his English wife, Amy Brown, on the ground that his previous ecclesiastical union to her was null and void, fulfilling the other formalities necessary to invest it with any legal validity in France. For the same reason, Prince Victor, who was a visitor, enjoyed extra-territorial prerogatives in Great Britain, and was subject there, not to the laws of England, but to those of his own country.

King George IV. is now proved to have contracted a religious union with Mrs. Anne Fitzclarence, but on the ground of being contrary to the royal marriage laws it was invalid, and it was this that enabled him to contract with a commoner, the daughter of the Duke of Cambridge, who was ecclesiastically married to the Irish Marchioness of Eglar. The Duke of Cambridge was ecclesiastically married to the Irish Marchioness of Eglar, but on the ground of being contrary to the royal marriage laws, and consequently he could not have wedded her during the lifetime of his own royal wife, Queen Victoria.

There is a difference, even in Germany and Austria, between morganatic marriages and purely ecclesiastical marriages that are statutorily invalid because they have failed to comply with certain legal requirements. A morganatic marriage is a religious as well as a civil and thoroughly legal contract, whereby, owing to the difference in rank between the contracting parties, the one of inferior rank is debarré from participation in the honors, titles and social prerogatives of the other, and likewise excluded, as are also the children born to the union, from any share in the family estate or property of the royal dynasty concerned.

Thus, Archduke Francis Ferdinand, the next Emperor of Austria, is now wedded in the eyes of the church and in the eyes of the law, to Duchess Sophie of Hohenberg, and yet he is not contractually married with some woman of his own rank without securing both from the church and from the Austrian law, or rather from the imperial family law, a dissolution of his union to the duchess.

In one word, a prince of the family who has contracted a full-fledged morganatic alliance with a woman of inferior rank, cannot wed again until he obtains a dissolution of that union, whereby, owing to the difference in rank between the contracting parties, the one of inferior rank is debarré from participation in the honors, titles and social prerogatives of the other, and likewise excluded, as are also the children born to the union, from any share in the family estate or property of the royal dynasty concerned.

lives when not travelling or visiting, he votes where the boarding house is. President Taft is now a resident of Washington, but he votes in Ohio.

Diamond Deposits.

In what kind of rock formation are diamonds found? A.—They are found in more than one kind of rock, but are generally connected with small pieces of rock scattered through alluvial soil. In India the diamond beds are distinguished by a mixture of large round stones and small pebbles. In Brazil they are connected with slate mica. In South Africa they are found with a peculiar rock called diabase, or gabbro.

Count Raymond Pourtales, of the German embassy at Washington, whose engagement to Countess Louise Bernstorff, daughter of the German ambassador to the United States, has just been announced, has no American blood in his veins, despite all reports to the contrary, and is not a son, but the stepson, of that widowed Countess Hermann Pourtales, who was Miss Helen Earley, of New York and Tuxedo, young Count Raymond Pourtales, born at Geneva, is the offspring of the late Count Hermann Pourtales by his first marriage, with a Miss Marguerite Margot, of Geneva, who died at Cannes, in 1888, three months before he gave an American mother to her son, Count Raymond Pourtales.

There are few families of the Old World aristocracy that have furnished more titled husbands to American women than the house of Dr. Pourtales, which was forced to leave France at the time of the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, although to-day the majority of its members are Roman Catholics. There are at least a couple of dozen Counts of Pourtales who, as well as in Germany, in Switzerland and in France, thus Count Frederick Pourtales is the German ambassador at St. Petersburg. The late Count Louis Pourtales was inspector-general of artillery in the Swiss army, and the late Count Francis Pourtales, after acquiring citizenship in the United States, spent a portion of his life as a director of the Zoological Museum at Boston, Mass. Count Arthur Pourtales was recently French minister plenipotentiary in Guatemala, and after losing in a very large fashion his first American wife, a daughter of old Benjamin Franklin, married another American woman, Miss Marie Bessier, of New Orleans, who herself had been previously married to John Beecher, of New York.

Another Dr. Pourtales, Jacques, by name, spent many years as secretary of the French embassy in London. Hubert de Pourtales is one of the pillars of the French turf and sportsman of that repeated winner of the Grand Prix, Baron Schickler; while the marriage of Count Pourtales, in which she is known as "La Comtesse," just as if no other lady of that rank existed, is Mme. Edmond de Pourtales, who in the palmy days of the Tuilleries was so renowned for her taste and elegance in dress that she won for herself the nickname of "Chiffonnette" (Copyright, 1910, by the Brentwood Company.)

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